VZCZCXRO8539 RR RUEHAG RUEHROV DE RUEHLJ #0029 0230515 ZNY CCCCC ZZH R 230515Z JAN 08 FM AMEMBASSY LJUBLJANA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6373 INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE RUEHGI/AMEMBASSY BANGUI 0001 RUEHKH/AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM 0019 RUEHNJ/AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA 0009 RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA 0037 RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO 1172 RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0146 RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS RHMFIUU/USEUCOM VAIHINGEN GE RUEKDIA/DIA WASHDC

CONFIDENTIAL LJUBLJANA 000029

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E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/22/2018

TAGS: <u>EUN MARR PGOV PREL CD SI</u>

SUBJECT: SLOVENIA TO PARTICIPATE IN ESDP DEPLOYMENT TO CHAD AND C.A.R.

REF: SECSTATE 3208

Classified By: CDA Maryruth Coleman for reasons 1.4 (b,d)

11. (C) On January 17, Emboff delivered reftel points and nonpaper to Andrej Slapnicar of the MFA Security Policy Division, who stated that Slovenia appreciates U.S. support for the European Security and Defense Policy (ESDP) deployment to Chad and the Central African Republic (C.A.R.) and noted that Slovenia has committed 15 reconnaissance troops to the mission. Slapnicar stated that the January 11 force generation conference had succeeded in securing sufficient troops, helicopters, and medical equipment and personnel for the mission. Given the nature of the Slovene deployment, Slapnicar indicated that he expects the Slovene troops to deploy with the first wave of deployments in late January or early February so that they can effectively carry out their reconnaissance mission. He noted, however, that the ESDP mission is under pressure to move quickly in order to deploy before the onset of the rainy season in Chad and C.A.R. Slapnicar stated that Slovenia supports close coordination with NATO regarding the ESDP mission to Chad and C.A.R. COLEMAN